

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

"Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune"

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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 year ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Aug. 7, 1943
(It Was Saturday)
Mexican workers arrive to help in pear harvest.

From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Cowmen have been busy the past week packing salt to the well-known alleged beef shortage summering in the high hills.

23 YEARS AGO

Aug. 7, 1933
(It Was Monday)
Earl B. Day of Sams Valley is named county judge following conviction of incumbent for ballot theft.

Lions club soup kitchen fed 13, 397 last winter, report shows.

30 YEARS AGO

Aug. 7, 1923
(It Was Tuesday)
Screen Commissioner William R. Coleman reports thousands of trout killed in Applegate district by recent landslides.

City to pay its workers twice monthly hereafter.

40 YEARS AGO

Aug. 7, 1913
(It Was Thursday)
Petitions request county court to call special election for issuance of \$500,000 in bonds for paved highway from California line to Josephine county line.

General Felix Diaz, Mexico's special ambassador to Japan, passes through Medford.

LOGGER KILLED

McMinnville — (U.P.) — William Robbins, 40, Clatsop logger, was killed yesterday when a log rolled on him during an unloading operation in Elkhorn canyon, 18 miles northwest of here.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF H. W. SNYDER, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed her Final Account herein, and the above entitled Court has set the 24th day of August, 1953, at 10:00 A.M. as the time for the hearing thereon, and all persons having any objections to said account are to appear and make known the same before the above entitled Court at said time.

DATED this 22nd day of July, 1953.
Edna C. Skinner
Executrix of the estate of H. W. Snyder, deceased.

NOTICE
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Jackson County
In the Matter of the Estate of Wayman Warner, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed her Final Account in the above entitled matter, and the above entitled Court has fixed the 28th day of August, 1953, at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon, in the Circuit Court Room in the Court House in Medford, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing objections to said Final Account, and for the settlement thereof.

HELEN HEREFORD, Administratrix
Skyman, Coudlette & Heisel, Attorneys for Administratrix

NOTICE OF SALE
To Satisfy
Warehouseman's Lien
The following goods belonging to one Mr. Wayne Glenn, last known address to be 1307 N. Main, Medford, Oregon, will be sold at Public Auction at Davis Transfer & Storage Company, 40 South 1st St., Medford, Oregon, on August 11, 1953, sale beginning at 10:00 A.M. until such time as is satisfied:

One Rug
One Pad
One Daveno
One O.C. Chair
One table
One S.B. Chair
One S.B. Chair
One S.B. Chair
One S.B. Chair
One S.B. Chair
Davis Transfer & Storage Company
40 South 1st Street
Medford, Oregon
Phone 2-6273

Dead Line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturdays.

What Happened to Prunes

Low prices, decline of export and domestic markets, unreliability of production and neglect in maintaining proper quality standards have all figured in the disappearance of the Oregon prune, according to the Oregon Statesman which is published in Salem, the center of what was, some years ago, a major prune producing region.

THE Statesman's editorial was called forth by our recent comment that California prune growers are spending a considerable amount of money in popularizing their product, whereas the once flourishing Oregon industry has dwindled and all but disappeared.

The Salem paper adds that too few prunes are now being grown in Oregon and that it is sometimes hard to get good Oregon dried prunes right in an area which formerly grew the fruit in such quantity. The Statesman editorial follows:

The Medford Mail-Tribune wonders what happened to the growing of prunes in Oregon. Lots of things happened, chiefly low prices, which resulted in the pulling up of prune orchards. Loss of export markets in Central Europe and the Middle East due to lack of dollar exchange; loss of domestic markets like the lower East Side in New York due in part to competition from citrus fruits and juices; unreliability of production due to weather damage (frost, rains in blossom-time); neglect in maintaining proper quality in prunes offered for sale.

As the M-T says, Oregon prunes are excellent for food, nutritious and well flavored, though the Eastern trade always preferred the sweeter California prune rather than our tart-sweet product. The prune was given an inferiority status in boardinghouse days when stewed prunes were served so often the dish became a joke—"you're full of prunes."

There still is a sizable market for canned and dried prunes. In fact the growing of prunes has been contracted too much in Oregon—sometimes it's hard to get good Oregon dried prunes here. But it is doubtful if a promotion campaign such as the M-T says is planned for California prunes will lift the Oregon prune industry to its former dimensions.

THE Eugene Register-Guard, noting the Medford and Salem editorials on the passing of the Oregon prune, ventures the opinion that the fruit could be restored to popularity by better processing and skillful marketing. Says the R-G:

Down in California, energetic fruit growers are launching a big advertising campaign to renew the popularity of the prune and this has inspired the Medford Mail-Tribune and the Statesman (Salem) to offer some comments on the decline of Oregon's prune industry. They enumerate a number of difficulties:

Loss of export markets in Central Europe and the Middle East due to lack of dollar exchange.

Loss of domestic markets in great American cities due to the competition of other fruits and fruit juices.

Production hazards in the Northwest—weather uncertainties, blights, and pests which make it difficult to maintain quality.

The mysterious preference for California's sweet and flabby, over Oregon's tart-sweet prunes.

Thirty years ago, the prune industry flourished in the Northwest, especially in the Willamette Valley. The prune drier, lifting its tower out of the orchard branches, was a familiar sight in the region.

All this has disappeared. A few prune orchards remain (mostly up in Polk County) but most of them have been pulled up by the roots to make way for more profitable crops. A few farmers specialize in the luscious Miller sweets but it is necessary to hunt through the markets to find the genuine, tart-sweet, blue prune.

In our opinion, the tart-sweet prune had no equal. Properly prepared it had a form and flavor which made the mushy giant from California tasteless by comparison. Part of the difficulty in cooking any prune is in the preparation. So many cooks refuse to take the trouble to soak them properly and they boil them to a messy ruin.

It has always been our belief that the Oregon prune could be restored to popularity by better processing and skillful marketing. Most of the time we merely ride California's coattails in marketing our own.

—E.C.F.

It's Tougher for Firebugs

Times are getting tougher for arsonists. Although there has been no appreciable increase in the number of fires, arrests and convictions of adult firebugs in the United States have risen fifty per cent in the past year, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

THE increase in arrests is believed partly due to the greater interest being displayed by state and municipal authorities in crimes of this type, and partly to more efficient work in investigation and prosecution.

A year ago the National board reported a substantial reduction in the number of arson cases. In fact, arrests and convictions then were at a possible all-time low. Arson cases brought before the courts have risen markedly of late, however, due to more careful scrutiny where any slightest suspicion exists.

THE large increase in convictions this year is expected to prove a deterrent for those contemplating "selling out to the insurance company," and also for those peculiar characters who set things afire just for the heck of it.—E.C.F.

Blowout Blamed In Bus-Auto Crash

Hiyo, Okla. — (U.P.) — Investigators said today a blowout evidently caused a car and a bus to plunge into a 30 foot canyon, killing six persons and injuring 25.

The Greyhound bus, carrying 38 persons, and an Illinois car pulling a house trailer collided one mile west of here yesterday. The vehicles locked and spilled over a bridge into a rocky creek bed.

The Highway Patrol called the accident the worst traffic mishap in Oklahoma history.

Deputy Sheriff E. W. Lewis said tire marks indicated the car driven by Manuel Wilkey of Springfield, Ill., had a blowout, and that the vehicle swerved into the bus.

The vehicles then plunged off the bridge into the creek, falling

Crosstown

By Roland Coe

